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SECRET [redacted]

PM copy - passed by [redacted] (b)(3)

(b)(3)

22 January 85

Use of Chemical Warfare in Southeast Asia and Afghanistan

Laos

Reported chemical attacks against the HMong in Laos have decreased dramatically during the past two years and we have no evidence to support claims of a lethal chemical attack since Nov-Dec 1982. While some HMong refugees continue to report lethal CW "yellow rain" attacks, these reports lack detail, are inconsistent, and usually cannot be corroborated by other refugees reputedly in the same attack. We believe that any chemicals used in Laos since 1982 were riot control agents such as CS or other incapacitating agents. [redacted] (b)(3)

Cambodia

The Democratic Kampucheans (DK) continue to claim that the PAVN are poisoning water supplies and are using lethal chemicals against them, but we have no evidence to support these claims. The last lethal chemical attack probably occurred [redacted] CS, a riot control agent, was us(b)(1) against the DK and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) during (b)(3) the past two years with the latest use probably having occurred in the recent PAVN attacks on the KPNLF's camps along the Thai-Cambodian border. In several instances the use of CS has been confirmed by chemical analysis. Recently the KPNLF has reportedly recovered a PAVN chemical artillery round. We are trying to obtain detailed information on this munition. [redacted] (b)(3)

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[redacted] (b)(1) (b)(3)

The PAVN has also accused the DK of using the riot control agent, CS, against PAVN forces. We have no confirmation of this use. [redacted] (b)(3)

Afghanistan:

[redacted] (b)(1) (b)(3)

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